Borough of Tamworth

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Senior Public Health Inspector

For the Year ended 31st December, 1960

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
9, LADY BANK,
TAMWORTH.

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Borough of Tamworth

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor J. T. Betteridge, Chairman.
Councillor E. Collins, Vice-Chairman.
Alderman R. M. Turner

Councillor	P. J. Dix	Councillor	L. H. Spooner
,,	E. L. Edkins	,,	M. Sutton
,,	F. A. Jewsbury	,,	R. W. F. Walton
,,	K. A. Mugleston	,,	C. A. Walton (Mayor)

Councillor S. Munn

Medical Officer of Health :
A. Farnill Morgan, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.
(Resigned 31st March, 1960)

A. Blench, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H.
(Commenced 1st September, 1960)

Senior Public Health Inspector:

H. Birchwood, C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.,
Cert. Insp. of Meat and Foods.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

G. E. Webb, C.S.I.B.
(Resigned 23rd January, 1960)

Health Visitors and School Nurses:

Miss E. M. E. Hagstrom, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Mrs. W. Clements, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS

OF THE BOROUGH OF TAMWORTH

Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the report on the health of the Borough for the year 1960. As I was the Medical Officer of Health only during the last four months of the year, I propose setting out this report in similar form to those of my predecessors. It is, therefore, a statistical one compiled from information collected from many sources by the Health Department.

The Birth Rate was 16.6 and the Death Rate 14.2. No deaths were attributable to childbirth.

The Infant Mortality Rate at 13.2 shows a marked decrease from last year (20.5) and again reflects the high standard of care on the part of General Medical Practitioners, Midwives and Health Visitors in the Borough.

Sixty cases of notifiable infectious diseases were notified during the year, 30 of these being Measles. There were no cases of Food Poisoning and no cases of Poliomyelitis.

I take this opportunity of thanking all Members and Officers of the Council and Health Department for their help and co-operation since I took up my appointment, and will now proceed to make the Report.

A. BLENCH,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1960

Area in Acres	2,678
Registrar General's estimate of resident population ...	13,600
(Census, 1951)	12,889
(Census, 1931)	11,711
(Census, 1921)	8,032
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1960) according to Rate Books	4,257
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census, 1951)	3,688
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census, 1931)	2,785
Persons per Acre	5.0
Rateable Value—April, 1960	£176,091
Product of 1d. Rate (Estimated 1960/61)	£715

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births—

		Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	...	214	117	97
Illegitimate	...	13	4	9
		227	121	106

Birth Rate 16.6

Still Births—

		Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	...	4	1	3
Illegitimate	...	1	—	1
		5	1	4

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 3

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births ... 21.5

Deaths from all Causes

	Total.	Male.	Female.
	193	96	97

Death Rate per 1,000 Population 14.2

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age

		Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	...	2	2	—
Illegitimate	...	1	1	—
		3	3	—

Deaths of Infants under Four Weeks of Age

		Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	...	2	2	—
Illegitimate	...	1	1	—
		3	3	—

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age

All Infants per 1,000 live births 13.2

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 9.3

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male.	Female.
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—
Tuberculosis, other	—	1
Syphilitic disease	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	2	3
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	9	—
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	7
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	1	2
Diabetes	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	14	20
Coronary disease, angina	16	11
Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	1
Other heart disease	6	13
Other circulatory disease	6	8
Influenza	—	2
Pneumonia	7	7
Bronchitis	5	3
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa ...	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
Congenital malformations	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	9	11
Motor Vehicle accidents	6	—
All other accidents	1	2
Suicide	1	—
Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—
Totals, all causes ...	96	97

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases notified together with the age groups.

INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1960

Disease	Total cases at all ages	Total Cases Notified												Total Deaths	Cases admitted to Hospita
		Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 60	60 and over		
Smallpox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	2	...	...		...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	4	...	...		...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	..	...
Erysipelas ...	3	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	9	...	...	1	...	3	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	30	1	1	5	2	1	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	48	1	1	6	2	5	26	—	1	—	1	3	2	—	—

FOOD POISONING

Food Poisoning Notifications (corrected) returned to R.G.

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
—	—	—	—

Total, —

Outbreaks due to Identified Agents:

Total outbreaks, Nil. Total Cases, Nil.

Outbreaks of Undiscovered Cause:

Total outbreaks, Nil. Total Cases, Nil.

Single Cases:

Agent identified, Nil. Unknown causes, Nil. Total, Nil.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Age at 31.12.60 (i.e. born in year)	Under 1 1960	1-4 1956-9	5-9 1951-5	10-14 1946-50	Total under 15
(a) Number of children whose last course (primary or booster) was completed in the period 1956-1960 ...	46	694	337	59	1,136
(b) Number of children whose last course (primary or booster) was completed in the period 1955, or earlier	—	—	553	915	1,468

Immunised during 1960	Under 5	5-15	Total	Booster all ages
	147	5	152	222

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1960

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1–5	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
5–15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15–25	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25–35	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35–45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45–55	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
55–65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	5	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
	7		1		1		—	

HOUSING

The following table gives details of the Council's post-war housing programmes.

	Fazeley Road		Amington Road		Gillway		Bolehall Estate		Lichfield Street		Bolebridge Street	
	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Dwellings Allocated	No. of Dwellings Completed	No. of Flats Allocated	No. of Flats Completed
1947	66	42	52	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1948	40	24	52	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1949	60	2	—	78	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1950	84	76	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1951	—	106	—	—	146	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1952	—	—	—	—	156	114	—	—	—	—	—	—
1953	—	—	—	—	102	192	—	—	—	—	—	—
1954	—	—	—	—	100	92	—	—	—	—	—	—
1955	—	—	—	—	—	86	—	—	—	—	—	—
1956	6	6	—	—	21	30	12	—	—	—	—	—
1957	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
1958	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	68	—	76	—
1959	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	68	—	76
1960	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	256	256	104	104	525	525	12	12	68	68	76	76

Housing Applications:

List at 1st January, 1960—

	Householders.	Lodgers.	Total.
Applicants residing in the Borough	137	156	293
Applicants residing outside Borough	244	226	470
	381	382	763

List at 31st December, 1960—

Applicants residing in the Borough	180	232	412
Applicants residing outside Borough	218	186	404
	398	418	816

HOSPITALS

All hospitals in the Borough are included in the Lichfield, Sutton Coldfield and Tamworth Group under the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board and are as follows :—

Tamworth General Hospital.

St. Editha's Hospital.

Tamworth Isolation Hospital.

MATERNITY ACCOMMODATION

No maternity accommodation is provided at the Hospitals in the Borough.

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES

These are under the County Council (except Tuberculosis and Orthopædic Clinics) since the 5th July, 1948.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held twice weekly.

A Chiropody Clinic is held weekly.

A Speech Therapy Clinic is held weekly.

A School Clinic is held weekly.

An Ante-Natal Clinic is held weekly.

Eye Clinics are held fortnightly.

Dental Clinics are held weekly for expectant and nursing mothers, toddlers and school children.

An Orthopædic Clinic is held weekly at the College Lane Schools.

A Chest Clinic is held at St. Editha's Hospital.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

An ambulance is stationed at Tamworth and is available during the daytime. The Lichfield ambulance is available at all other times.

WATER SUPPLY

Source of Supply.—Well and bore hole at Hopwas Pumping Station. South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

Gallons Pumped during 1960. — 328,599,000 Gallons. Received from South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, 136,823,600.

Well.—Highest, 4ft.; Lowest, 1ft.

Treatment Before Distribution.—The supply is chlorinated en route to the high level reservoir at Hopwas, and the bulk supply from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company is chlorinated at source.

All dwelling houses in the Borough have a piped supply, either direct into the house or by means of standpipes.

Approximate number of houses supplied:—

(a) Direct to houses		Population
4,398	... ...	13,600
(b) By means of Standpipes		
24	... ...	76

Rainfall.—The Rainfall for the year 1960 was 36.01in.

With the assistance of the bulk supply from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, it was possible to give a continuous supply to all consumers throughout the year, at pressures ranging from 30lbs. to 80lbs.

During the year, 10 samples of water have been obtained by the Health Department from domestic supplies in various parts of the Borough and submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination.

The results were satisfactory. The water is not plumbo solvent. There is a fairly high degree of hardness.

OPEN-AIR SWIMMING BATHS

Routine samples were taken during the summer months when the baths were open. Bacteriological analyses were all satisfactory. "Break-point" chlorination was used.

These baths are a very valuable health asset to the Borough and are well patronised.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

The year 1960 was a particularly trying one for the Department. Dr. Morgan, Medical Officer of Health, resigned upon obtaining a new appointment, the additional Public Health Inspector, who had only been with the Department five months, was called for National Service, and the Clerk/Typist also resigned. From a staff of four, three left and at one period of the year I was the sole representative of the Department. Despite advertisements to fill the vacancy of additional Public Health Inspector, no applications were received and the position remained unfilled at the end of the year.

The Department, however, continued to function on one cylinder, and the following tables, etc., show the work carried out.

Housing Repairs and Rent Act, 1954.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

Thirty applications were received for grants to improve properties, 28 of these were for Standard Grants.

Rent Act, 1957.

No applications for certificates of disrepair were received during the year.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The number of types of closet accommodation existing at the end of the year is as follows—

No. of Houses	No. of Privies	No. of Pails	No. of Water Closets	Per cent. Dry	Per cent. Water Closets
4,257	6	34	5,135	0.9	99.1

The privy and pail type of closet are in the rural parts of the Borough where no sewer is available.

There are approximately 20 premises served by a system of drainage discharging to cesspools.

INSPECTIONS

The following statement shows the number of visits and inspections to various classes of premises.

Visits and Inspections	Number
Inspection of drains of old property	10
Other inspections of existing property	174
To work in progress	208
,, test drains and sanitary fittings	24
,, premises re infectious diseases	10
,, tuberculous cases	4
,, respecting disinfection	6
,, cowsheds, dairies and milkshops	20
,, bakehouses	18
,, slaughterhouses	472
,, manure steads	4
,, factories	24
,, outworkers' premises	4
,, shops re Shops Acts	96
,, ,, re Meat Regulations	62
,, food inspection	180
,, offensive trades	2
Miscellaneous visits	72
Housing Acts	84
Caravans	20
Rodent Control	203
	1,697

COMPLAINTS

Nature of Complaint	Number Received
Choked passage drain	8
,, slopstone waste pipe	4
,, water closet	26
,, yard drain	10
Defective water closet basin	6
,, dust bin	76
,, wall and ceiling plaster	18
,, house roof	26
,, windows	14
,, kitchen sink	3
,, cooking range	9
,, floors	16
,, doors and frames	4
,, wash-houses and washing coppers ..	9
,, yard surface	1
,, walls	19
,, gutters	52
,, drains	6
Dampness of house	32
Accumulation of refuse	4
Dirty house	2
General insanitary conditions	2
House infested with vermin	4
Nuisance from keeping animals	5
Accumulation of manure	1
Rat infested premises	42
Emission of smoke	16
Miscellaneous	42
	457

To secure the abatement of these defective conditions, 74 informal notices were served.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	14	14	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	96	24	4	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	110	38	4	—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	4	4	—	4	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total	5	5	—	5	—

Four persons were returned as Outworkers under the Act, and these were engaged on wearing apparel. Visits were made and in each case the home conditions were considered suitable.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955.

There are twenty-three butchers' shops, six bakehouses and thirty-four food preparing premises in the Borough.

Routine visits have been made during the year and together with the requirements of the above Regulations and in the face of everyday competitive trading, purveyors of foodstuffs are gradually improving their premises.

DAIRY FARMS, DAIRIES, RETAIL PURVEYORS OF MILK

Cowkeepers	10
Dairies	4
Retail Purveyors	12

The Borough of Tamworth is included in a Specified Area and all dairymen who retail milk in the Borough must sell milk under special designation. The special designations authorised to be sold are "Pasteurised," "Sterilised" and "Tuberculin Tested."

All retailers obtain their supplies so treated and bottled from wholesalers outside the Borough.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

An employee of the Council is trained and engaged in part-time rodent control work.

Two hundred and three inspections were made and forty-two premises were found to be infested. The facilities provided by the Council were made available to the owners or occupiers and the infestations were successfully treated by pre-baiting and poisoning.

Half-yearly treatment of the sewers and periodical treatment of the Council's refuse disposal tip has been carried out.

SANITARY SUPERVISION OF PLACES OF AMUSEMENT

The cinema and other places of entertainment have been periodically inspected with regard to the sanitary accommodation.

The managements have been found anxious to maintain the conveniences in a satisfactory condition, and any defects found have at once been remedied.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924-1935
Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933-1958.

There are five licensed slaughterhouses in the Borough and the following animals have been killed:—

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1959	... 700	2	1,753	2,845
1960	... 756	3	1,559	2,571

Meat Condemned	Weight in lbs.
1 pig carcase—Generalised Tuberculosis ...	360
1 pig carcase—Jaundice	90
	450
Organs:	
Cattle	1,240
Calves	—
Sheep	40
Pigs	821
	2,101
Other Foods	5,261
(this includes 84 cases Poultry totalling 4,377lbs., condemned at the Tamworth Cold Store.)	
Total amount condemned	7,812

= 3 tons, 9cwts. 3 qrs.

Carcases Slaughtered and Examined

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Cow/ Heifers	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
1959 Number killed	498	2	200	2	1753	2845
1960 Number killed	437	6	313	3	1559	2571
Number Inspected ...	437	6	313	3	1559	2571
Diseases except Tuberculosis						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	42	—	22	—	20	66
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	9.6	—	7.0	—	1.2	2.6
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	5	—	7	—	—	41
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	1.1	—	2.2	—	—	1.6
Cysticercus Bovis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	6	—	—	—	—	—
Submitted to refrigeration	4	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised & totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

The Slaughterhouses Reports (Appointed Day) Order, 1959.

The Slaughterhouses (Reports) Direction, 1959.

Inspections were carried out of the five slaughterhouses in the Borough and a meeting of persons and organisations concerned was held in accordance with Section 3 of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.

A report was submitted to the Ministry, and the 1st July, 1961, recommended as the date upon which the new construction standards for hygiene, etc., should come into force.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. BIRCHWOOD,

Senior Public Health Inspector.